(b) Government's policy to absorb the personnel working under I.C.D.S.-III project in the other projects;

(c) whether Government have received any suggestions from Members of Parliament in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) As per original schedule, closure date of ICDS-III Project was 30.9.2004. World Bank, however, has agreed to assist the Project till 30th June, 2005. ICDS Scheme would continue in the blocks covered under the ICDS-III Project even after World Bank assistance ceases.

(b) By their very nature, such appointments in a project are co-terminus with the schedule of the project. The question of continuation, or otherwise, of the personnel working under ICDS-III Project, therefore, would be decided as per the terms and conditions of their appointment as and when the situation arises.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Member had suggested continuation of 110 blocks covered under World Bank assisted ICDS-III Project in Uttar Pradesh alongwith the existing staff beyond 30.9.2004. The position as replied in parts (a) & (b) has been intimated to the Hon'ble Member also.

Discretionary quota of Members for admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas

† *275. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that students have to face a lot of difficulties in getting admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas all over the country;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the discretionary quota for Members of Parliament from 2 to 4 students; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Admissions to Kendriya Vidyalayas are made in the order of priority laid down in the guidelines of the Sangathan.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The existing quota is considered to be adequate, as the number of such admissions have to be limited.

Programmes to reduce poverty

† *276. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Tenth Plan period a number of programmes are being implemented to reduce proportion of poverty by 2007; .

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent the reduction of proportion of poverty is targeted during this period and the targets achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) With a view to ameliorate conditions of the urban poor, and to reduce the urban poverty in the country, Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation is implementing a Centrally Sponsored urban poverty alleviation programme namely Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) on All India basis *w.e.f.* 1.12.1997. The Scheme is continuing in the Tenth Five Year Plan also. SJSRY strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or under-employed through encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures or through provision of wage employment. SJSRY is funded on a 75:25 basis between the Centre and the States. It targets the urban poor, living below the urban poverty line, as defined from time to time by the Planning Commission.

(c) Target for reduction of poverty ratio by 5 percentage points by the year 2007 has been fixed in the Tenth Plan. Under SJSRY, in urban areas, targets for setting up of 4 lakh micro enterprises and skill upgradation training to 5 lakh persons, living below the poverty line, have been fixed in the Tenth Plan. As against these targets, in the first two years of the Tenth

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.